

## Minutes

# Technology and Security Committee Meeting

August 19, 2020 | 12:45–1:45 p.m. Eastern

### Conference Call

Chair Suzanne Keenan called to order a duly noticed open meeting of the Technology and Security Committee (the “Committee”) of the Board of Trustees (“Board”) of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (“NERC” or the “Company”) on August 19, 2020, at 12:45 p.m. Eastern, and a quorum was declared present. The agenda is attached as **Exhibit A**.

Present at the meeting were:

#### **Committee Members**

Suzanne Keenan, Chair  
Kenneth W. DeFontes  
Robin E. Manning  
Jan Schori  
Roy Thilly, *ex officio*

#### **Board Members**

Robert G. Clarke  
George S. Hawkins  
Jim Piro  
James B. Robb, NERC President and Chief Executive Officer  
Colleen Sidford

#### **NERC Staff**

Tina Buzzard, Assistant Corporate Secretary  
Manny Cancel, Senior Vice President and Chief Executive Officer of the E-ISAC  
Shamai Elstein, Assistant General Counsel  
Kelly Hanson, Senior Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer  
Stan Hoptroff, Vice President, Business Technology  
Mark Lauby, Senior Vice President and Chief Engineer  
Bill Lawrence, Vice President, ERO Enterprise Security Initiatives  
Sônia Mendonça, Senior Vice President, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary  
Donna Pratt, Manager, Performance Analysis  
Janet Sena, Senior Vice President, External Affairs

#### **Chair’s Remarks**

Ms. Keenan welcomed the Committee members and highlighted recent Committee activities. She reflected on the ERO Secure Evidence Locker, 2021 funding for Align, and the Member Executive Committee's (MEC) endorsement of the E-ISAC budget. Ms. Keenan introduced and welcomed Ms. Hanson to the meeting in her role as Senior Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer.

#### **NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines**

Ms. Buzzard directed the participants’ attention to the NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines included in the agenda, and indicated that all questions regarding antitrust compliance or related matters should be directed to Ms. Mendonça.

**Minutes**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee approved the minutes of the May 13, 2020 meeting as presented at the meeting.

**E-ISAC Update**

Mr. Cancel provided an overview of E-ISAC's operations, including updates on E-ISAC activities related to COVID-19, the cyber and physical security threat landscape, the move to 24/7 operations, and member and partner engagement. He highlighted: (i) enhanced engagement with the Department of Energy and the Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council (ESCC); (ii) an increase in membership in 2020, largely in the public power and municipal power area; and (iii) E-ISAC's production of over 600 informational documents in 2020, spanning cyber and physical security.

Mr. Cancel reviewed the E-ISAC's Long-Term Strategic Plan, referencing the materials included in the advance agenda package. He thanked E-ISAC members for their feedback and noted that E-ISAC will evaluate the need for additional changes to the Strategic Plan and will update the Committee at the next meeting. Mr. Cancel noted that the E-ISAC had not substantively modified the strategic and operational focus areas and objectives from the draft Strategic Plan presented to the Committee at its May 13, 2020 meeting. He also reported that the MEC endorsed the updated Strategic Plan during its July 21, 2020 conference call. He reviewed refinements in the Strategic Plan, including: (i) further recognizing E-ISAC's role and value in supporting both the ESCC and key government agencies; (ii) acknowledging that member service needs vary and the importance of ongoing stakeholder guidance; (iii) clarifying E-ISAC's intelligence role as leveraging government and private sector threat and intelligence information; and (iv) highlighting considerations for evaluating extending services to the downstream natural gas sector. After discussion, and upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee recommended the E-ISAC Long-Term Strategic Plan for approval by the Board.

**ERO Enterprise Business Technology Projects**

Ms. Pratt and Mr. Hoptroff provided an update on the ERO Enterprise business technology projects, referencing the materials included in the advance agenda package. Ms. Pratt provided an update on the Geomagnetic Disturbance (GMD) application and the Microsoft TEAMS Collaboration Platform. Mr. Hoptroff reviewed E-ISAC technology projects, including: (i) the Salesforce customer relationship management (CRM) tool; (ii) the E-ISAC Portal; and (iii) the Data Analysis Platform.

**ERO Enterprise Align Project**

Mr. Hoptroff provided an update on the ERO Enterprise Align project. He highlighted the development of a robust change management process for the deployment of the Align solution focused on the unique needs of registered entities, Regional Entities, and NERC. Mr. Hoptroff detailed specifics of the change management program including user acceptance testing, training, solution governance, and communications.

**ERO Enterprise Secure Evidence Locker**

Mr. Hoptroff provided an update on the ERO Secure Evidence Locker (ERO SEL). He noted that on June 22, 2020, the Commission approved NERC's request to fund the development of the ERO SEL.

Mr. Hoptroff provided an overview of the ERO SEL, and explained how, collectively, the Align tool and ERO SEL will provide a platform to enable harmonization of Regional Entity practices driving to a common registered entity experience while facilitating the secure submission, review, and retention of evidence generated during Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program activities. He highlighted that development of the ERO SEL is currently underway and detailed the projected timeline for completion of the project.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, and upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by,



Sônia Mendonça  
Corporate Secretary

## Agenda

# Technology and Security Committee

August 19, 2020 | 12:45-1:45 p.m. Eastern  
Conference Call

Attendee Webex: [Join Meeting](#)

### Introduction and Chair's Remarks

### NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines\*

### Agenda Items

1. **Minutes\*— Approve**
  - a. May 13, 2020 Meeting
2. **E-ISAC Update\***
  - a. E-ISAC Operations – **Review**
  - b. E-ISAC Long-Term Strategic Plan – **Review and Recommend Board of Trustee Acceptance**
3. **ERO Enterprise Business Technology Projects\*— Update**
4. **ERO Enterprise Align Project\*— Update**
5. **ERO Enterprise Secure Evidence Locker\* — Update**
6. **Other Business and Adjournment**

\*Background materials included.